

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 422

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 EC BRUSSELS 01926

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, CY

SUBJECT: EC-NINE POLITICAL COOPERATION MEETINGS, BRUSSELS,
MARCH 3-4: FURTHER PREPARATIONS FOR DUBLIN

REFS: A) EC BRUSSELS 1864 B) EC BRUSSELS 1882 C) EC
BRUSSELS 1725

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AGENDA ITEMS AT THE FORTHCOMING
EUROPEAN COUNCIL (HEADS OF GOVERNMENT) IN DUBLIN MARCH 10-11
WERE DISCUSSED AT THE EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING IN
BRUSSELS ON MARCH 3 AND AT THE EC-NINE FOREIGN MINISTERS
COUNCIL MEETINGS ON MARCH 3-4. THE CURRENT LIST OF ITEMS
FOR DUBLIN INCLUDES: UK RENEGOTIATION; THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL SITUATION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY; ENERGY--THE
COMMUNITY ENERGY POLICY AND PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONSUMER/
PRODUCER PREPCON; THE NEW ECONOMIC ORDER--INCORPORATING
PAPERS ON DC/LDC RELATIONS AND ON RAW MATERIALS SUPPLIES
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(REF C); CSCE; AND THE CURRENT SITUATION IN CYPRUS.

THE MINISTERS' DELIBERATIONS ON UK RENEGOTIATION WERE REPORTED REF A AND THE RAW MATERIALS PAPER WAS SUMMARIZED REF B. THIS MESSAGE COVERS THE REMAINING SUBJECTS. END SUMMARY.

2. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS OF THE EC-NINE MET ON MARCH 3 TO DISCUSS THE PREPARATION OF THE "POLITICAL" ITEMS (CSCE, CYPRUS AND THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE) FOR THE DUBLIN SUMMIT. THE EC COUNCIL (FOREIGN MINISTERS) SIMULTANEOUSLY CONSIDERED THE "TREATY" ITEMS (THE NEW ECONOMIC ORDER, BRITISH RENEGOTIATION, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SITUATION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY) ON THE SUMMIT AGENDA. FINALLY, ON MARCH 4 THE FOREIGN MINISTERS DONNED THEIR POLITICAL COOPERATION HATS AND APPROVED THE PREVIOUS DAY'S EFFORTS OF THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS.

3. "POLITICAL" AGENDA ITEMS:

A. CSCE: THE EC-NINE WERE DIVIDED ON THE QUESTION OF INCLUDING CSCE ON THE AGENDA FOR THE SUMMIT. THE UK AND, TO A LESSED EXTENT, THE FRG WERE OPPOSED; THE OTHER MEMBER STATES, MOST NOTABLY BELGIUM, FAVORED DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE AT THIS TIME. ACCORDING TO SEVERAL PERMANENT REPRESENTATION SOURCES, THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT DISCUSSION WILL NOT BE SPECIFIC. ONE SOURCE SEES THE CSCE AGENDA ITEM AS A GENERAL HEADING UNDER WHICH EAST/WEST RELATIONS WILL BE DISCUSSED. HE THINKS THE COMMUNITY IS UNLIKELY TO TAKE A POSITION AT DUBLIN ON THE LEVEL OF STAGE 3 DISCUSSION, LARGELY BECAUSE COORDINATED COMMUNITY ACTION HAS BEEN PREEMPTED BY A NUMBER OF MEMBER STATES' RECENT BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT ARE ALSO NOT EXPECTED TO GIVE SPECIFIC CONSIDERATION TO THE QUESTION OF FOLLOWUP, ALTHOUGH THE MEMBER STATES APPEAR TO BE IN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE DISADVANTAGES OF ESTABLISHING INDEPENDENT FOLLOWUP MACHINERY. AS A RESULT, THIS SOURCE FEELS THE DISCUSSION WILL COME OUT ONLY AS A AVERY GENERAL REVIEW OF THE

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"STATE OF DETENTE." HE ALSO NOTES THAT PRIME MINISTER WILSON PLANS TO REPORT TO HIS COLLEAGUES ON HIS RECENT TRIP TO MOSCOW.

B. CYPRUS: AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION, THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS DECIDED NOT TO INCLUDE CYPRUS AS A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM, BUT RATHER TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION UNDER THE HEADING OF OTHER CURRENT QUESTIONS. THE CYPRUS ITEM IS BEING

HANDLED IN THIS MANNER, SINCE IT IS FELT THAT
EVENTS BETWEEN NOW AND THE DUBLIN MEETING MAY MAKE
ANY DISCUSSION SUPERFLUOUS OR INOPPORTUNE.
IF THE SUBJECT DOES COME UP, THE HEADS OF
GOVERNMENT ARE LIKELY TO REINFORCE THE DECLARATION
MADE WHEN THE FOREIGN MINISTERS MET IN DUBLIN ON
FEBRUARY 13, AND WOULD BE EXPECTED TO LAY DOWN
GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR COORDINATION OF EC ACTIONS
AT THE UN ON THE ISSUE. MEMBER STATE REPRESENTA-
TIVES ARE LIKELY TO BE INSTRUCTED TO TRY TO INVOLVE
THE SECRETARY GENERAL IN THE PEACE-MAKING EFFORTS.
WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT WILL
ALSO TAKE NOTE OF THE RATHER LUKEWARM RESPONSE BY
BOTH SIDES TO THEIR FEBRUARY OFFER OF "GOOD
OFFICES." (PRIVATELY, WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY A
BELGIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATION SOURCE THAT THE
GREEKS HAVE GIVEN A SLIGHTLY MORE POSITIVE RESPONSE
TO THIS OFFER THAN HAVE THE TURKS).
C. EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE: THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS
CONSIDERED THE INCLUSION OF THIS ITEM ON THE
DUBLIN AGENDA BUT DECIDED THAT DISCUSSION AT THAT
TIME AND LEVEL COULD ENGENDER PUBLICITY WHICH MIGHT
PROVOKE A NEGATIVE REACTION ON THE PART OF THE
ARABS (SEE REF C).

4. "TREATY" AGENDA ITEMS:
A. THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SITUATION OF THE COMMUNITY:
THE DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT IS EXPECTED TO
CONSIST OF GENERALITIES, ALTHOUGH HEAVY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 EC BRUSSELS 01926

EMPHASIS IS LIKELY TO BE PLACED ON THE PRESENT
UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.
OUR SOURCES INDICATE IT CONTINUES TO BE UNLIKELY
THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT WILL AGREE TO ANY SIGNIFICANT
CONCERTATION OF THEIR ECONOMIC POLICIES.
B. ENERGY: HERE TOO THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS'
DISCUSSIONS ARE EXPECTED TO BE GENERAL IN
CHARACTER. THERE HAS NOT BEEN SUFFICIENT PREPARA-
TION REGARDING A COMMUNITY ENERGY POLICY TO PERMIT
THEM TO TAKE SIGNIFICANT STEPS IN THE AREA,
ALTHOUGH THEY ARE EXPECTED TO STRESS THE NECESSITY
FOR COORDINATED ACTION. WE ARE UNCLEAR AS TO WHAT
ROLE THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL WILL PLAY IN THE
COMMUNITY'S PREPARATIONS FOR THE FORTHCOMING
CONSUMER/PRODUCER MEETINGS. WE ARE INFORMED BY
SEVERAL SOURCES THAT IT IS PROBABLY THE HEADS OF
GOVERNMENTS WILL DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF THE IEA
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING.
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5. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THE IRISH AND FRENCH HAVE
REACHED A COMPROMISE REGARDING THE FORMAT OF THE
DUBLIN MEETING. IN TERMS OF FORMALITY, IT WILL BE
"SOMEWHERE BETWEEN PARIS AND COPENHAGEN", I.E. THE
IRISH HOPE TO BE ABLE TO KEEP THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS'
DELIBERATIONS IN FOCUS WHILE AVOIDING AN OVER-FORMAL
ATMOSPHERE AND PROTRACTED MINISTERIAL-LEVEL DRAFTING SESSIONS.

6. COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR THAT BRITISH RENEGOTIATION
WILL DOMINATE THE DUBLIN MEETING-POSSIBLY TO THE
VIRTUAL EXCLUSION OF OTHER AGENDA ITEMS. IN VIEW OF
THE LACK OF PROGRESS AT THE MARCH 3-4 FOREIGN MINISTERS
COUNCIL MEETING ON THE BUDGET ISSUE VERY LITTLE TIME
IS EXPECTED TO BE LEFT IN WHICH TO DEAL WITH EITHER
THE "TREATY" OR "POLITICAL" AGENDA ITEMS. END SUMMARY.
GREENWALD

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